

NOTE XXII.

REPORT ON BIRDS FROM THE NETHERLANDS
RECEIVED FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 1909
TILL 1 SEPTEMBER 1910

BY

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(With plate 2).

During the last twelve months our collection of indigenous birds has been augmented by 516 skins and about 65 clutches of eggs. Among the skins are two specimens of the black guillemot (*Cephus grylle*), a species, which was not yet represented in our collection. Of another species, also not represented in the collection and even new to the Avifauna of the Netherlands, which I have mentioned in a previous note in this volume ¹), I had the good fortune to purchase a stuffed example, that has been shot some time ago in our country. Of three species, *Colymbus imber*, *Egatheus falcinellus* and *Motacilla flava thunbergi*, which belong to our rare visitants, I received this year examples, of the last-named species several ones.

The following gentlemen presented the Museum this year with specimens for the indigenous bird-collection: D. Bakker, Dr. J. F. van Bemmelen, E. Blaauw, F. E. Blaauw, J. Boonstra, Jhr. W. C. van Heurn, C. Keyser Czn., J. M. van Oort, A. A. van Pelt Lechner, Dr. F. A. H. Schreinemakers, G. S. van der Spruyt, C. N. Tieleman, F. H. Verster and Mr. R. Baron van Zuylen van Nyevelt.

The more important acquisitions follow here.

1) Note XIV, *Hierofalco gyrfalco islandus* (Brünnich), a new bird to the Avifauna of the Netherlands, p. 176.

Podiceps nigricollis Brehm.

Of this species I received three males in winter plumage, shot near Texel 27 December 1909, 1 and 15 January 1910.

Colymbus imber Gunnerus.

The great northern diver is a rare visitant to our country. This winter I received a young male, shot 27 December 1909 on the Marsdiep near Texel, which is the first specimen I saw in flesh. The bill is dusky grey with blackish culmen. We have now four specimens, without doubt killed in our country, among which one specimen, a male, in full dress.

Oceanodroma leucorhoa (Vieillot).

Two specimens of Leach's petrel have been purchased: a female, caught alive 16 November 1909 on Texel and a male, netted near Westernieland, Groningen, 22 November 1909.

Sula bassanus (L.).

We received six adult specimens, males and females; one male, shot 8 November 1909 near Texel, having back and wingcoverts still mottled with black; a female was caught alive on Texel at the 26th of April 1910.

Egatheus falcinellus (L.).

Plegadis falcinellus (L.). Notes Leyden Mus. XXX, 1908-'09, p. 138.

Two females were shot at Pernis, Zuid-Holland, 5 November 1909 and purchased for our collection. We received also a fine male, shot 4 December 1909 near Giethoorn, province Overijssel.

Aythia nyroca (Güldenstädt).

We received one specimen, a female, shot 30 October 1909 at Nieuwkoop, and three specimens, a male and two females, shot 23 August 1910 at Nieuwkoop.

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***Microfalco gyrfalco islandus* (Brünnich).**

(Plate 2).

The white gyr-falcon, shot 7 December 1909 near Rijsbergen, Noord-Brabant, which I have mentioned on page 176 of this volume, is now, I am glad to state here, in the possession of our Museum.

In the last of March of this year Jhr. W. C. van Heurn, student of Zoology, told me, that Mr. C. J. Bosman at Scheveningen was in the possession of a nearly white bird of prey, shot in our country. Mr. Bosman kindly allowed me to see the bird; I was not less astonished to see a true white gyr-falcon, which species till yet had not been observed in the Netherlands.

According to the taxidermist who has stuffed the bird, it should be a female, but its measurements prove that it is certainly a male, and judging from its plumage, a rather young male. The measurements are: wing 390, tail 220, culmen (from cere to tip) 21, tarso-metatarsus 58, middle toe with claw 75 mm. The bill is yellowish grey with dark tip, the cere and the feet greyish horn.

Head and sides of face white with dark brown longitudinal streaks; upper surface greyish brown with white spots and white margins to the feathers. Centre pair of tailfeathers white with 10 dark brown cross-bands; other tailfeathers white with irregular small spots of dark brown at the outer webs. Chin and throat white; breast, vent and flanks white with drop-shaped spots of dark brown; thighs white with some longitudinal streaks of dark brown; under tailcoverts white. Under wingcoverts white with dark brown longitudinal streaks, the greater ones with dark brown shaft-stripes.

The nomenclature and synonymy of the three forms of gyr-falcon, which occur in Northern Europe, I let follow here:

Hierofalco gyrfalco (L.).

Falco gyrfalco Linnaeus, Syst. Nat. Ed. X, I, 1758, p. 91. — Id. Ed. XII, I, 1766, p. 130. — Schlegel, Vog. v. Nederl. 1854—58,

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p. 11, pls. 4 and 5. — Id. Mus. Pays-Bas, Revue Acc. 1873, p. 34.

— Dresser, Birds Eur. VI, 1871—81, p. 15, pl. 367. — Id. Man. pal. Birds, II, 1903, p. 539.

Hierofalco gyrfalco, Sharpe, Cat. B. Br. M. I, 1874, p. 416.

Falco rusticolus gyrfalco, Stejneger, Auk, 1885, p. 187.

A rare visitant to our country, observed about seven times. The Leyden Museum possesses two specimens shot in the Netherlands.

Hierofalco gyrfalco fuscus (Fabricius).

Falco fuscus Fabricius, Faun. Groenl. 1780, p. 56.

Hierofalco islandus, Sharpe, Cat. B. Br. M. I, 1874, p. 414.

Falco islandicus, Schlegel, Mus. Pays-Bas, Revue Acc. 1873, p. 34.

Falco islandus, Dresser, Birds Eur. VI, 1871—81, p. 25, pls. 370 and 371. — Id. Man. pal. Birds, II, 1903, p. 541.

Falco rusticolus, Stejneger, Auk, 1885, p. 188. 1)

This form has as yet not been observed in our country.

Hierofalco gyrfalco islandus (Brünnich).

Falco islandus Brünnich, Orn. bor. 1764, p. 2, nos. 7 and 8. — Stejneger, Auk, 1885, p. 187.

Falco candicans Gmelin, Syst. Nat. I, 1789, p. 275. — Schlegel, Mus. Pays-Bas, Revue Acc. 1873, p. 34. — Dresser, Birds Eur. VI, 1871—81, p. 21, pls. 368 and 369. — Id. Man. pal. Birds, II, 1903, p. 540.

Hierofalco candicans, Sharpe, Cat. B. Br. M. I, 1874, p. 411.

Once observed in the Netherlands.

Totanus glarcola (L.).

At the 14th of July a male was shot on the dunes of Wassenaar. The game-keeper had observed a couple of these birds during the last months; it is not impossible that this pair has bred there.

1) *Falco rusticolus* Linnaeus, Syst. Nat. Ed. X, 1758, I, p. 88, is in my opinion not a gyr-falcon, but probably a goshawk.

***Stercorarius pomarinus* (Temminck).**

We purchased one male, shot 12 November 1909 near Texel. The plumage is dark brown, the feathers obscurely margined with cinnamon. Bill dark grey, feet clear grey-blue, the greater part of toes and webs black. Wing 345, bill 36 mm.

***Stercorarius parasiticus* (L.).**

Richardson's skua is the commonest one of the four skua's, which visit our country. This year I received five specimens, all shot near Texel, viz.:

♂, 11 September 1909. Breast nearly uniform dark brown, the feathers obscurely margined with pale cinnamon; wing 308, bill 30 mm.

♀, 11 September 1909. Breast white, thickly banded with dark brown; wing 313, bill 30 mm.

♂, 2 October 1909. Breast white; wing 325, bill 32 mm.

♀, 2 October 1909. Breast white with some greyish brown cross-bars; wing 307, bill 33 mm.

Not sexed specimen, 16 July 1910. Breast white with some greyish brown cross-bars; wing 323, bill 32 mm.

***Larus fuscus* L.**

We received an adult female, shot 26 May 1910 near Texel. This is the first specimen, which I received in flesh. We have now four adult and seven young specimens from our country.

***Larus minutus* Pallas.**

Only one specimen was received this winter, a female, shot 27 November 1909 near Texel.

Urula trollic (L.) var. **ringvia** Brünnich.

This winter we purchased two examples of the ringed variety, both in winter dress and both males, shot 8 November 1909 and 31 January 1910 near Texel.

Cepphus grylle (L.).

The black guillemot is a very rare straggler to our coast; only two specimens were known to have been observed, viz.: the specimen, mentioned by Temminck and that found in December 1904 near den Helder. This winter I received two specimens, both males in winter dress, which were killed on the Marsdiep near Texel, 27 December 1909 and 1 January 1910.

Apus apus (L.).

On the 24th of August I received a young male, that had been shot the day before near den Helder. On the 14th of September 1908 I observed at Lekkerkerk, Zuid-Holland, a single specimen among a flock of swallows.

Cuculus canorus L.

I received two females in the rufous phase of plumage, shot 21 May 1910 near Breda and 18 June 1910 near Wassenaar. The oviduct of the latter bird contained a fully developed, but broken egg.

Motacilla flava thunbergi Billberg.

Motacilla flava borealis Sundevall, Notes Leyden Mus. XXX, 1908—1909, p. 200.

At the 19th of May I received three yellow wagtails, caught the day before at Harderwijk, of which a male belongs to the northern form *thunbergi*, and the two other ones, females, to the typical form. At the 21st of May I received again 17 yellow wagtails, caught 20 May near



a.

b.

J. C. WÄKERLIN phot.

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HIEROFALCO GYRFALCO ISLANDUS (Brünnich).